Serial No.:

09/854,208

Filed:

May 10, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 66-82 remain pending in the application. All objections and rejections of Claims 60-65 and 67-68 have been withdrawn by the Examiner in view of Applicant's amendment in Paper No. 14, filed on October 29, 2002. The scope rejection of Claims 69 and 70 has been withdrawn in view of Applicant's supplemental amendment in Paper No. 15, filed on January 23, 2003.

Rejections Over Prior Art Under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 66-82 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Ebner et al., US 2003/0003545. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Ebner et al. reference has a filing date of May 27, 1999. Applicant's pending application is a divisional of and claims priority to US application number 09/311,832, filed May 14, 1999 which predates the filing date of May 27, 1999 of the Ebner et al reference. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that US 2003/0003545 neither anticipates nor makes obvious the present invention and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In light of the above remarks, Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for immediate allowance and respectfully request that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and this case passed to issue.

Serial Number: 09/854,208

Filed: May 10, 2001

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (650) 225-4563 if any issues may be resolved in that manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 4, 2003

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